

The Value of Being a Federal Depository



It's official. The final issue of the State Department Bulletin was December, 1989. According to sources inside the Dept...
Have any academic libraries started using Internet for their sole access to electronic databases/documents? How does...
Did and/or does the Congressional Record have a quarterly (or any other frequency) directory of lobbyists? We could...
The Country Reports on Human Rights Practices can be found under the new SiDoc number for the renamed Committ...
Were a President to be impeached by the House and convicted by the Senate, he would be removed from office, and...
FBI - in case any of you get questions on this because of the recent Kennedy Tragedy, Historical information on burial...
As bars about its ulterior purposes are a new phenomenon in Ame...
how if anyone is undertaking any digitization projects for...
for the period from July 1, 1956 to June 30, 1997 (date Appe...

GOVDOC-I

Easy As
FDL

FEDERAL DEPOSITORY LIBRARIES

Free Information, Dedicated Service, Limitless Possibilities



Background

On August 19, 2008, a letter from Ric Davis, Acting Superintendent of Documents & Director, LSCM was sent to all depository library directors inviting discussion about the Value of the FDLP and the library's participation in it. The depository coordinators were alerted about the letter on the FDLP-L list serve discussion list and the federal library directors on the FDLP directors list serve.

This letter was one mechanism GPO used to seek input for the strategic plan on the future of the FDLP. It asked library directors to identify the value depository designation creates at the local level for the library, its staff, and users. Library directors were encouraged to discuss the value of the depository, its benefits, and successes with their depository coordinators and share this information with GPO. The submissions about the value of the depository were to be shared on the FDLP Desktop.

This notebook contains

- the letter and list serve messages inviting a discussion about the Value of the FDLP,
- an idea of how these submissions might be searched,
- the link to the FDLP Marketing Plan, and
- a copy of all submissions.

Look for the new "Value of the FDLP" web page which will aggregate these materials as a benefit for library directors, depository coordinators, and agencies that are seeking to learn how to best leverage FDLP resources.



August 19, 2008

Dear Depository Library Director,

This letter is an invitation to discuss the value of the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP) and your library's participation in it. The trend of Government agencies to publish primarily to the Web provides widespread access to their information like never before. This has resulted in many changes to Federal depository libraries: fewer reference transactions are being reported, remote use of resources is increasing, and fewer tangible materials are being sent in depository shipment boxes.

As library administrators rethink the role of their library within their institutional settings and how they are going to conduct business in the twenty-first century, it is not surprising that some directors and depository librarians are questioning the value of continuing to participate in the FDLP.

The FDLP, sometimes called the nation's first "right-to-know" program, is steeped in a history that dates to 1813. At the foundation are the unwavering principles that the public has the right of access to its government's information and Government has the obligation to disseminate and provide broad public access to its information, preserve its information, and guarantee its authenticity and integrity. The original intent of the FDLP, as it is today, is to create an informed citizenry who will participate in the democratic processes of the U.S.

GPO's cataloging staff provides bibliographic control for all information products published by the U.S. Federal Government including all formats of products disseminated through the FDLP. GPO is the national (and defacto international) authority for cataloging U.S. Federal publications and participates in the monograph, serial, and authority programs of the Library of Congress, Program for Cooperative Cataloging (PCC). Depositories have the capability to download authoritative cataloging records from GPO's *Catalog of U.S. Government Publications* at no cost. These records can be used by depositories in their own online catalogs which helps ensure the general public can identify, locate, and use Government information.

Federal depository libraries are uniquely positioned, through law and tradition, to provide no-fee public access to current and historical Government information dissemination products. Dedicated, knowledgeable, and service-oriented staff is found in depository libraries. This combination provides limitless possibilities for depository users.

The FDLP is comprised of a network of approximately 1,250 Federal depository libraries around the U.S. and its territories joining in a cooperative partnership with GPO. The libraries are of varying sizes and types and provide expert assistance rendered by professionals. All contribute to the success of the network. Depository staff naturally operates in a collegial, collaborative manner to uphold the principles of Federal Government information.

A strong value is placed on the relationships that have developed among and between depositories, library users, GPO, and Federal agencies. With the FDLP serving as a catalyst, depository libraries continue to operate best as a network of libraries that support each other regionally and spontaneously form alliances and consortiums to provide value-added services. Increased collaboration and additional flexibility in the FDLP resulted in:

- Enhanced service to underserved populations;
- Promotion of citizen participation in the democratic process;
- New marketing strategies and promotional materials;
- Additional education and training opportunities for depository library staff in the use of Government information resources through conferences, peer assists, virtual reference, and Web-based training modules;
- Web-based training software that depository coordinators may use to create training modules to share across the FDLP;
- Access for depository libraries to premium databases such as the Homeland Security Digital Library and the National Technical Information Service's Depository Access to Reports, Technical & Scientific (NTIS/DARTS);
- Government Information Online: Ask a Librarian (GIO) to answer user questions or provide subject matter expert assistance to depository coordinators; and
- Cadre of depository library experts available to provide instruction for staff and users in your library via the Government Information in the 21st Century project.

The challenge now is to identify the value depository designation creates at a local level for your library, staff, and users. For example:

- Academic libraries may find their depository collection of value for curriculum support or for accreditation purposes;
- Public libraries might value the peer network that provides onsite instruction for staff, helps them achieve an informed citizenry, or assists in conducting a voter registration drive; or
- Law libraries may value the FDLP as a source for official, authentic government materials.

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GPO is actively seeking success stories and anecdotes about the value of your depository to feature on the FDLP Desktop. What are the ways your library derives value from the FDLP? How have your users benefited by using depository resources?

Please e-mail me at rdavis@gpo.gov and tell me about the unique benefits the Federal depository in your library provides. Let me know how we can assist in improving the value of the depository to your community and library. This information is ever so important as we embark on the strategic planning process for the FDLP and design our path for the next ten years. Through this collaboration we may discover additional ways to increase the value of the FDLP for all as we *Keep America Informed* for generations to come.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard G. Davis".

RICHARD G. DAVIS
Acting Superintendent of Documents and
Director, Library Services and Content Management

From: Abraham Lorraine [mailto:labraham@ehc.edu]
Sent: Monday, August 25, 2008 4:27 PM
To: Davis, Richard G.
Cc: Hanshew Jody
Subject: FW: Federal Depository

Dear Mr. Davis,

I asked one of our most active Gov Docs patrons, Professor Edward Davis, to respond to your request for success stories and anecdotes on the value of our depository collection. Below is his response. Ed teaches *Geography* and is, by far, one of our most beloved professors at Emory & Henry College. I hope this is what you're seeking.

Regards,
Lorraine Abraham

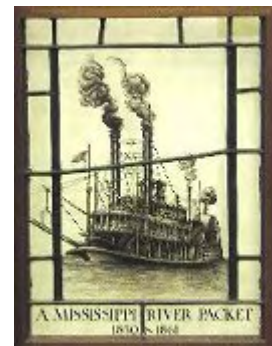
Lorraine N. Abraham

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From: Davis Edward H.
Sent: Monday, August 25, 2008 4:22 PM
To: Abraham Lorraine
Subject: Federal Depository

Lorraine-

You ask what value the Federal Depository serves in my academic work. My answer is: a great deal! My teaching in the geography department depends on the Federal Depository. First of all this is because of the excellent map resources. My students are required to use the library's USGS topographic maps, US Forest Service maps and Census Bureau data. But I find other kinds of resources very helpful as well. My lectures and visual aids have often come from the National Park Service and the Department of Agriculture. I have regularly required students to research changes in federal environmental law using the Congressional Record. The anthropological studies of the early twentieth century have beautiful maps and excellent narratives which have served my teaching needs. Finally, the large poster maps produced by several federal agencies (e.g., electoral districts, metropolitan



statistical areas, federal lands) have proved useful when I bring students into the library for research discussions.

Teaching is not all I do: I also do research on food and agriculture, and the Federal Depository has always been important to that work. I have found Census of Agriculture data on my areas stretching back to the 19th century, and I have found the new NASS data discs useful for more recent data. The historical USDA data available in the Depository is extensive, ranging from yearbooks to special publications on particular crops, practices, pest control and food science.



In short, the Federal Depository's print materials and digital data sets kept in our library are very valuable to me as a geographer, both in teaching and research.

-Ed

From: Patricia Profeta

To: Davis, Richard G.

Sent: Thu Aug 28 15:18:04 2008

Subject: Value of the FDLP

Your letter hit the nail on the head: Keeping America Informed.

I've been working with depository collections since 1979. I learned the value of government publications from two Rutgers University librarians, Mary Fetzter and Les Ota. As a result, federal publications are a primary source of information that I recommend to college students and community patrons. The FDLP enables access to all American citizens.

Thank you,

Pat

Patricia C. Profeta, Ph.D.
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From: Rickey Best [mailto:rbest@aum.edu]
Sent: Thursday, August 28, 2008 5:12 PM
To: Davis, Richard G.
Cc: Lucy Farrow
Subject: Benefits of the FDLP

Dear Mr. Davis:

In your letter of 19 August, you asked for information on the value of the FDLP and (our) library participation in the program. As a co-Regional depository, we have been able to significantly benefit the citizens of the central and southern Alabama region, as well as benefiting our own students and faculty. Three of our academic programs (Education, Justice and Public Safety, and Political Science / Public Administration all rely on our documents collection to support special accreditation. Access to the Department of Homeland Security Digital Library has benefited the department of Justice and Public Safety in its preparation of a Masters program in Homeland Security which is being submitted to the Alabama Commission on Higher Education for review and approval.



Additionally, we provide support for various agencies of state government, including the State Department of Education and the State Transportation Department. Local citizenry love coming in to use the American State Papers collection, searching for genealogical information.

All of the above activities contribute immeasurably to our strength as a library, and as a source for information and support to the citizens of the state.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to your memo.

Sincerely,

Rickey D. Best
Dean
Auburn University at Montgomery Library
P.O. Box 244023
Montgomery, AL 36124-4023
(334) 244-3200
rbest@aum.edu



From: Martha Zimmerman <mczimmerman@salisbury.edu>
To: Davis, Richard G.
Cc: Alice Bahr <AHBAHR@salisbury.edu>
Sent: Fri Aug 29 11:41:36 2008
Subject: Depository Library Success Story: SU Fun Day

Dear Mr. Davis,

While our federal documents certainly augment the instructional resources available to the patrons of the Blackwell Library at Salisbury University, it is on SU Fun Day that depository resources assume center stage. Fun Day is an annual event that Salisbury University hosts for the community. It is a family event, which serves the purpose of fostering "town and gown" connections. Each department on campus has some kind of activity, most of which are geared towards children. The Blackwell Library is no exception. In addition to 'library bingo' and crafts, documents librarian Gaylord Robb assembles a list of GPO websites for children, and is on hand at dedicated Fun Day terminals to provide hands-on assistance. I've attached a list of the websites used, as well as some pictures.

Thank you,
MZ

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& Instructional Resources
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Government Websites for Kids, Parents & Educators

Bureau of Printing and Engraving

Bureau of Printing and Engraving kids site: <http://www.moneyfactory.com/kids/start.html> - K

Central Intelligence Agency (CIA)

CIA's Homepage for Kids ((click on "Kids' Page" then click "Games") <https://www.cia.gov/> K, P,T,S

CIA World Factbook (country info): <https://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/index.html> P, T, S

Census Bureau (<http://www.census.gov>) – P, T, S

American Factfinder: http://factfinder.census.gov/home/saff/main.html?_lang=en - P, T, S

American Factfinder People: <http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/SAFFPeople?sse=on> P, T, S

American Indians and Alaskan Natives: <http://factfinder.census.gov/home/aian/index.html> P, T, S

City & County Data Book: <http://www.census.gov/prod/www/ccdb.html> P, T, S

Factfinder Kids' Corner: <http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/kids/kids.html> - K

Factfinder Fun State Facts: <http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/kids/funfacts/funfacts.html> - K

Historical Censuses, Population & Housing, (1790 -):

<http://www.census.gov/population/www/censusdata/hiscendata.html> P, T, S

Maps, American Fact Finder:

http://factfinder.census.gov/jsp/saff/SAFFInfo.jsp?_pageId=gn7_maps P, T, S

Population of Tribes based on regions, division, and states:

<http://www.census.gov/population/www/cen2000/phc-t18.html> P, T, S

Voting and Registration Data, Series of Reports:

<http://www.census.gov/population/www/socdemo/voting.html> P, T, S

Center for Disease Control (<http://www.cdc.gov>) P, T, S

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Kids Quest on Disability & Health for Parents and **Teachers (Grades 4-6):** <http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/kids/kitppage.htm> - K

NCEH Kids' Page: <http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/kids/99kidsday/default.htm> - K

Health Topic: Adolescents & Teens: <http://www.cdc.gov/health/adolescent.htm> - A

Travel Information: <http://www.cdc.gov/travel/> P, T, S

Education (<http://www.ed.gov>)

Federal Resources for Educational Excellence (FREE)* <http://www.free.ed.gov> - T

Math assistance for parents: <http://www.ed.gov/pubs/parents/Math/index.html> - P, T

Teacher sites: <http://www.ed.gov/teachers/landing.jhtml?src=fp> - T

National Center for Education Statistics, quizzes: <http://nces.ed.gov/nceskids/eyk/index.asp?falsh=true> P, T, S

Energy (<http://www.doe.gov>) P, T, S

EIA Kids' Page: What is Energy?* : <http://www.eia.doe.gov/kids/> - K

DOE "National Science Bowl": <http://www.scied.science.doe.gov/nsb/default.htm> P, T, S

Dr. E's Lab: <http://www.eere.energy.gov/kids/> - K et al

Jefferson Lab Games Page: <http://education.jlab.org/indexpages/elementgames.html> K, P, T, S

Science for Kids of All Ages: http://www.er.doe.gov/Sub/For_Kids/For_Kids.htm - K

Department of Energy - For Students and Kids: <http://www.energy.gov/forstudentsandkids.htm> - K, S

EPA <http://www.epa.gov/> P, T, S

EPA, Environmental Education Center: <http://www.epa.gov/teachers/> - T

EPA, kids site: <http://www.epa.gov/kids> - K

EPA, Teachers site: <http://www.epa.gov/teachers/> - P, T

EPA, Students site: <http://www.epa.gov/students/> - S

FAA (<http://www.faa.gov>) - P, T, S

FAA Aviation Education Curriculum Guide: <http://www.faa.gov/education/curric.cfm> - P, T, S

FAA Student Resources: http://www.faa.gov/education_research/education/student_resources/ - S

FAA Kids Corner http://www.faa.gov/education_research/education/student_resources/kids_corner/ K

FBI (<http://www.fbi.gov>) - P, T, S

FBI for Kids (K-12): <http://www.fbi.gov/fbikids.htm> - K

FBI Youth : <http://www.fbi.gov/kids/6th12th/6th12th.htm> - K (6th to 12th grade)

FDA (<http://www.fda.gov>) - P, T, S

Kids page: <http://www.fda.gov/oc/opacom/kids/default.htm> - K

Health information for teens: <http://www.fda.gov/oc/opacom/kids/html/7teens.htm> - A

Using cosmetics safely(article) <http://vm.cfsan.fda.gov/~dms/cos-teen.html> - A

Yorick - shows kids bionic devices to assist people:

http://www.fda.gov/oc/opacom/kids/html/yorick_no.1.htm - K

FEC (Federal Election Commission) Election Procedure, etc. (<http://www.fec.gov>) - P, T, S

FEMA (<http://www.fema.gov>) - P, T, S

6tgb65FEMA for Kids: Resources for Parents & Teachers: <http://www.fema.gov/kids/teacher.htm> - P, T

FEMA for Kids: <http://www.fema.gov/kids/> - K

USFA for Kids: Resources for Parents & Teachers: <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/kids/l.htm> - P, T

USFire Administration (Fire Safety, etc.) for Kids: <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/kids/flash.shtm> - K

Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) (<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov>) - P, T, S

FHWA, Education Pages: <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/education/index.htm> - P, T, S

FHWA K-5: <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/education/k-5home.htm> - K, S

FHWA 6-8: <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/education/6-8home.htm> - K, S

FHWA 9-12: <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/education/9-12home.htm> - K, S

Federal Highway Administration, Instructional Aids: <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/education/teachers.htm> - P, T, S

First Gov for Kids: Now Kids.Gov <http://www.kids.gov/> - K

Fish & Wildlife Service: <http://www.fws.gov> - P, T, S

FWS Educators page: <http://educators.fws.gov/educators.html> - P, T

FWS Students Page: <http://www.fws.gov/educators/students.html> - S

Kids' Corner, Endangered Species*: <http://www.fws.gov/endangered/kids/> - K

Forest Service <http://www.fs.fed.us/> - P, T, S

Forest Service Kids Page: <http://www.fs.fed.us/kids/> - K

Government Printing Office (<http://www.gpoaccess.gov/>) - P, T, S

Ben's Guide, by subject (for parents & educators): <http://bensguide.gpo.gov/pt/subject.html> - P, T, S

Ben's Guide to U.S. Government for Kids (Good Learning Site) *: <http://bensguide.gpo.gov/> - K, S

U. S. Government (table of organization) : http://bensguide.gpo.gov/files/gov_chart.pdf - P, T, S

U.S. Government Web Sites for Parents and Educators <http://bensguide.gpo.gov/pt/subject.html> - P, T

Health and Human Services (<http://www.hhs.gov>) - P, T, S

Information – free posters & publications for the classroom: <http://store.health.org/catalog/> - P, T, S

Families & Children: <http://www.os.dhhs.gov/children/index.shtml#kids> P, K

HHS for Kids*: <http://www.hhs.gov/kids/> - K

HHS Girl Power!: <http://www.girlpower.gov> - K, P

HHS Pages for Educators & Teachers: <http://www.hhs.gov/kids/teachers.html> - P, T, S

Health.gov web page of multiple agencies: <http://www.health.gov> - E

Tobacco Information/Prevention Source for Youth <http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/tips4youth.htm> - P, T, S

Housing and Urban Development (HUD) <http://www.hud.gov/> - P, T, S

HUD Kids Next Door *: <http://www.hud.gov/kids/> - K

Interior (<http://www.doi.gov>) - P, T, S

DOI Kids Page: <http://www.doi.gov/kids/index.html> - K

Department of Interior, Teachers Resources: <http://www.doi.gov/teachers/> - P, T

Recreation.gov: <http://www.recreation.gov/> - E

Justice (<http://www.usdoj.gov/>) - P, T, S

Bureau of Justice Statistics: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/correct.htm> - P, T, S

Cybercrime for Kids: <http://www.cybercrime.gov/rules/kidinternet.htm> - K

Cyberethics, Teacher Resources (K-8): <http://www.cybercrime.gov/rules/lessonplan1.htm> - T
DOJ Kidspage, Information for Teachers and Parents:

Kids.Gov (This is Good Starting Point) <http://www.kids.gov/> - K

Kids.Gov - Health, Fitness, Safety - Grades 6 - 8 http://www.kids.gov/6_8/6_8_health_safety.shtml K, S

Kids.Gov - Science - Grades 6 - 8 http://www.kids.gov/6_8/6_8_science_how.shtml K, S

Library of Congress (<http://www.loc.gov>) - P, T, S

American Memory: (many online primary sources history) <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/> - P, T, S

America's Story from America's Library (LC Kids' Page)*:

<http://www.americaslibrary.gov/cgi-bin/page.cgi> - K

Library of Congress - "The Learning Page" - (Teachers Guide): <http://memory.loc.gov/learn/> T
(Includes [lesson plans](#))

Explore the States, Americas library: <http://www.americaslibrary.gov/cgi-bin/page.cgi/es> - P, T, S

Minerals Management Service: <http://www.mms.gov> - P, T, S

MMS kids site (pdf only): <http://www.mms.gov/mmskids/> - K

National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) (<http://www.archives.gov>) - P, T, S

Native American Records Introduction and Links to Resources - P, T, S

<http://www.archives.gov/research/native-americans/> Indians/Native Americans from the Archives Library
Information Center P,T,S

http://www.archives.gov/research_room/research_topics/pictures_of_american_indians.html

Brown v. Board of Education: P, T, S

http://www.archives.gov/digital_classroom/lessons/brown_v_board_documents/brown_v_board.html

Digital Classroom includes lesson plans and suggestions for incorporating government documents into lesson plans: http://www.archives.gov/digital_classroom/index.html - T

100 Milestone Government Documents: <http://www.ourdocuments.gov> - P, T, S

National Endowment for the Humanities (<http://www.neh.gov>) - P, T, S

Subject Guides for Teachers (lesson plans): http://edsitement.neh.gov/subject_categories_all.asp - T

First Amendment for teaching lower grades (lesson plans): - T

http://edsitement.neh.gov/view_lesson_plan.asp?id=339

NASA

Home Page: <http://www.nasa.gov/home/index.html> - P, T, S

NASA for Kids*: <http://www.nasa.gov/audience/forkids/home/index.html> - K

NASA for Students (K-4): <http://www.nasa.gov/audience/forstudents/k-4/home/index.html> - K

NASA for Students (5-8): <http://www.nasa.gov/audience/forstudents/5-8/features/index.html> - K, S

NASA for Students (9-12): <http://www.nasa.gov/audience/forstudents/9-12/features/index.html> - S

NASA SpaceKids Education Page: <http://spacekids.hq.nasa.gov/osskids/education.htm> - K

NASA Star Child - Information about the space program, solar system, and astronomy: - K, S

<http://starchild.gsfc.nasa.gov/docs/StarChild/StarChild.html>

National Institute of Health (<http://www.nih.gov>) - P, T, S

National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, Kids Page:

<http://www.niehs.nih.gov/kids/home.htm> - P, T, S

National Institute of Standards and Technology (<http://www.nist.gov>) - P, T, S

Official U.S. Time: <http://www.time.gov> - E

History of Timekeeping: <http://www.time.gov/exhibits.html> - P, T, S

NIST kids site (print and play): http://www.nist.gov/public_affairs/kids/kidsmain.htm

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) (<http://www.noaa.gov>) - P, T, S

Check your local weather: <http://www.crh.noaa.gov> - E

National Weather Service: <http://weather.gov/> - E

NOAA Central Library, Teachers and Students Resources: - P, T, S

<http://www.lib.noaa.gov/docs/education.html>

NOAA Educational Resources: <http://www.education.noaa.gov/> - P, T, S, E

NOAA Educators: <http://www.education.noaa.gov/teachers.html> - T

NOAA Forecast Systems Laboratory, The Globe Program: http://www.globe.gov/globe_flash.html - S

NOAA, From Stargazers to Starships: <http://www-spof.gsfc.nasa.gov/stargaze/Sintro.htm> - S

NOAA, International Year of the Ocean, Kid's and Teacher's Resources:

<http://www.yoto98.noaa.gov/kids.htm> - P, T, S

NOAA, Teacher at Sea: <http://www.tas.noaa.gov/> T, S

National Severe Storms Laboratory, Weather and Climate Resources (teacher resources):

National Weather Services, Education & Outreach: <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/education.html> - E

National Park Service: <http://www.nps.gov> - E

NPS Interpretation and Learning <http://www.nps.gov/learn/> - P, T, S, K

Lewis & Clark Expedition: http://www.cr.nps.gov/history/online_books/lewisandclark/ - P, T, S, K

National Women's Health Information Center (<http://www.4woman.gov>) - (women) T, S

Information on eating disorders: <http://www.4woman.gov/faq/eatingdi.htm>

GirlsHealth.gov: <http://www.girlshealth.gov/> (girls) P, T, S, K

GirlsHealth.gov (classroom tools for educators): <http://www.4girls.gov/educators/index.htm> T

Patent and Trademark Office (<http://www.uspto.gov/> ?

Patent and Trademark Office Kids' Page*: <http://www.uspto.gov/go/kids/> - K

Note: First copyright 1486 in Venice

Peace Corps

Peace Corps Kids' World* <http://peacecorps.gov/kids> - K

Smithsonian Institute (<http://www.si.edu>) - P, T, S

Smithsonian for Kids: <http://www.smithsonianeducation.org/students/> - K, S

Smithsonian for Teachers (lesson plans, etc.): <http://www.smithsonianeducation.org/educators/> - T

Smithsonian Institute, Anthropology for the Internet for K-12:

<http://www.sil.si.edu/SILPublications/Anthropology-K12/anth-k-12-home.htm> T, S, K

Smithsonian Institute Education Resources: <http://smithsonianeducation.org/> - P, T, S

Idea Lab **: http://smithsonianeducation.org/idealabs/smithsoniankids/flash_index.html - K

Kids Castle (bulletin board, etc.) – exploration of topics such as air & space, personalities, sports, arts, etc.

(Ages 8-16): <http://www.kidscastle.si.edu/> - S, K?

National Zoo **: <http://nationalzoo.si.edu/> - E

National Zoo: Just for Kids: <http://nationalzoo.si.edu/Audiences/kids/> - K

***National Zoo Cheetah Cam (scroll down) **:** K

<http://nationalzoo.si.edu/Animals/AfricanSavanna/default.cfm>

National Zoo African Savannah for Kids:**

<http://nationalzoo.si.edu/Animals/AfricanSavanna/afsavskids.cfm>

Social Security Administration (<http://www.ssa.gov/>

Social Security, Kids & Families: <http://www.ssa.gov/kids/index.htm> - P, T, S, K

Social Security Kids Place: <http://www.ssa.gov/kids/kids.htm> - K

State Department (<http://www.state.gov>) - E

U.S. State Department for Youth: <http://future.state.gov/> - S

Transportation (<http://www.dot.gov>) - E

Department of Transportation, Education & Outreach:

http://www.dot.gov/citizen_services/education_research/index.html S

Treasury (<http://www.ustreas.gov>) - E

Treasury Department's Learning Vault: <http://www.ustreas.gov/education/index.html> T, S

U.S. Savings Bonds <http://www.publicdebt.treas.gov/sav/savkids.htm> - K

U.S. Savings Bonds calculator: http://www.treasurydirect.gov/indiv/tools/tools_savingsbondcalc.htm -E

USDA (<http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/usdahome>) - E

USDA for Kids and Teens

http://riley.nal.usda.gov/nal_display/index.php?info_center=8&tax_level=1&tax_subject=433 - K, S,

U.S. Mint <http://www.usmint.gov/> - E

The Celebration of the 50 States (coins):

http://www.usmint.gov/mint_programs/50sq_program/index.cfm?flash=yes&action=designs_50sq

The 50 States Lesson Plans: - T

<http://www.usmint.gov/kids/index.cfm?fileContents=/kids/teachers/50SQLessonPlans.cfm>

U.S. Mint kids site, Teachers Guide: <http://www.usmint.gov/kids/index.cfm?fileContents=teachers> - T

U.S. Mint, Hip Pocket Change site for kids: <http://www.usmint.gov/kids/flashIndex.cfm> - K

U.S. Mint, Hip Pocket Change site for teachers (K-8) – (lesson plans) : - T

<http://www.usmint.gov/kids/index.cfm?fileContents=teachers/msummary.cfm>

U.S. Patent & Trademark Office (<http://www.uspto.gov>) - E

U.S. Patent & Trademark Office, Kids' Pages:

<http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/ac/ahrpa/opa/kids/index.html> - K

U. S. Patent & Trademark Office, Teachers & Parents:

<http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/ac/ahrpa/opa/kids/special/kidguide.htm> P, T

USA.Gov (formerly FirstGov) (<http://www.usa.gov/>) - P, T, S, (for Everybody!)

United States Fire Administration: <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/> - E

USFA Kids' site: <http://www.firesafety.gov/kids/flash.shtm> - K

White House (<http://www.whitehouse.gov>) E

Budget of the United States: <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/usbudget/index.html> E (not kids)

White House, Parents & Teachers Guide: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/kids/parents/index.html> P, T

White House Kids Site: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/kids/> - K

White House, Life in ... *: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/kids/whlife/index.html> - K

Veterans Affairs (<http://www.va.gov>) E

VA Kids site: <http://www.va.gov/kids/> - K

VA Kids K – 5th: <http://www.va.gov/kids/k-5/index.asp?intSiteID=2> - K, S

VA Kids 6 – 12 Grade: <http://www.va.gov/kids/6-12/index.asp?intSiteID=3> K, S

Note: This list was compiled by Mr. Robb, a reference librarian at Salisbury University. The list was updated on September 15th, 2007 - Many of these official U.S. Government websites' URLs were taken from a list compiled by Diane Velasquez, a student at the University of Missouri –Columbia School of Information Science and Learning Technologies. The "Key" was put together by Mr. Robb.
KEY (This 'key' is a general guide only of the intended audience – the sites may interest others as well)

P = Parents T= Teachers S= Students **K= Kids** A = Adolescents E = Everyone

Note: **All kids sites are listed in 'red'**. Some sites are great while others are just O.K. The better ones are underlined, but this is a judgement call on my part and is also dependent upon the kid's ages and their interests. You may find other sites that are more interesting . . . so please explore!!!

From: JANET HURLBERT
To: Davis, Richard G.
Sent: Mon Sep 01 14:16:08 2008
Subject: Depository Status
Good Afternoon,

I am writing in response to your letter asking for the ways we as a library perceive the benefits of being a partial government depository. Because we are a small academic library with limited staff and resources, we have discussed our status on several occasions. We see the benefits as the ability to retain older, print materials received during the years of being a depository. These are unique, primary sources that researchers can and do utilize. Obviously, we also receive some current print sources at no cost to us and make those available to our students and the public. The listservs help to keep our staff updated about information releases.



I will add that computerized tutorials on finding materials within various government documents would not only be most helpful to us for staff training, but these tutorials could also be mounted on classroom management systems so that students could have 24/7 access to refresh their memories about government information that we have discussed in their classes.

Sincerely,
Janet Hurlbert

Janet McNeil Hurlbert
Associate Dean and Director of Library Services
Snowden Library
Lycoming College
700 College Place
Williamsport, PA 17701
(570) 321-4082
Fax (570) 321-4090
hurlbjan@lycoming.edu

From: Fontenot, Helen
To: Davis, Richard G.
Sent: Mon Sep 08 14:42:06 2008
Subject: Letter to Depository Library Director
Dear Mr. Davis,

Thank you for inviting us to discuss the value of the FDLP. We appreciate the services of the FDLP. Attached is our response.

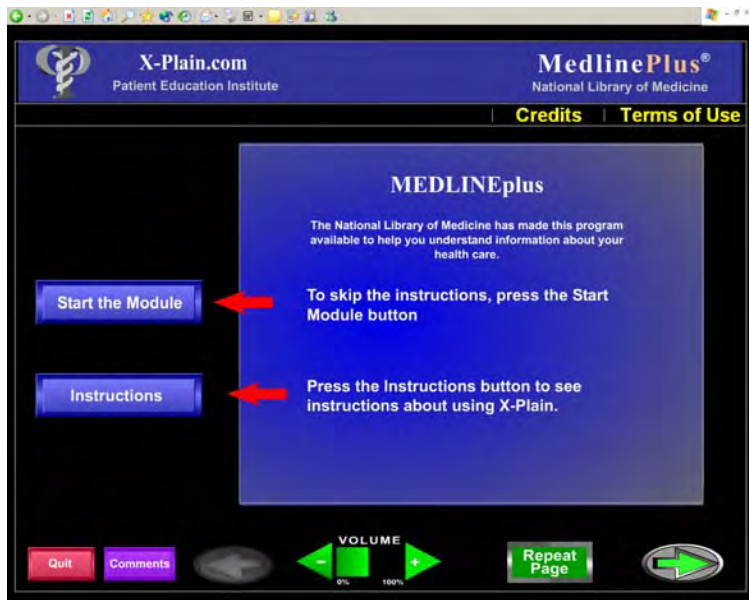
Sr. Helen Fontenot, M.S.C.
Director of Library Services
Blaine S. Kern Library
Our Lady of Holy Cross College
4123 Woodland Drive
New Orleans, LA 70131
(504) 398-2100
1-800-259-7744, ext.100
fax (504) 391-2421

A Ministry of the Marianites of Holy Cross

To: Richard G. Davis
From: Sr. Helen Fontenot—Director
Ramesh Parikh—Government Document Librarian
Date: 09/08/2008
Re: Value of Federal Depository Library Program

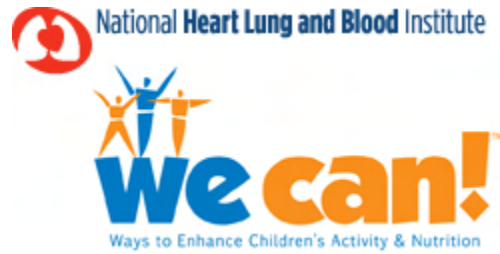
Ways that Our Lady of Holy Cross College Library derives value from the FDLP:

- Printed materials for patrons to borrow
- Electronic materials for patrons to access from remote sites
- Websites for obtaining free government information
- Government documents available to the public-at-large
- Materials for promoting government information



Ways that users have benefited by using Depository resources:

- Providing information for instructional use
- Supplemented resources for research and study
- Enhance personal knowledge
- Provides information on life-long learning and training



Yes, the FDLP supports the curriculum and assists with accreditation processes.

From: Stewart, Andy
To: Davis, Richard G.
Cc: Hubbard, David E. ; Jocius, Chris
Sent: Mon Sep 08 12:51:58 2008
Subject: FDLP anecdote

Dear Mr. Davis:

One of the most noteworthy benefits of the Wilson Library's participation in the Federal Depository Library Program is the access to NTIS/DARTS. Our campus is tightly focused on science and technology and we've used the NTIS databases for years. On a number of occasions, having access to the older NTIS materials has saved patron time and reduced potential frustration. In addition, when materials are available in electronic form, patrons prefer this option. In one particular case, the patron was prepared to print a lengthy document from an NTIS microfiche; DARTS availability meant he could get a complete electronic copy much more rapidly.



Credit to: David Hubbard, Government Documents Coordinator and Reference Librarian
C. L. Wilson Library
Missouri University of Science and Technology (formerly UM-Rolla)
Depository Library #332

Submitted by: Andy Stewart, Library Director

From: Jose A. Mari Mutt [<mailto:jmari@uprm.edu>]
Sent: Monday, September 15, 2008 10:23 AM
To: Davis, Richard G.
Cc: ruiz@uprm.edu
Subject: value of the FDLP program

Dear Mr. Davis:

This is in reply to your letter of August 19th inviting depository libraries to reflect on the present value of the FDLP program.

Our library, like many others, is in the process of moving from a printed culture to an online one. Within the next year or so we should have e-only professional journals and will also move to e-only technical books and reference works. Given this, if most GPO publications are available online I don't see much use for receiving printed duplicates that are not used frequently but which do occupy a considerable amount of space. If all GPO publications are published online and your office can create a friendly web interface to gain access to them, I feel that print publication can stop. This would save you a considerable amount of money and us a considerable amount of space.



I have considered the possibility of withdrawing from the FDLP, in part because of the above mentioned reasons, and in part because there are other depository libraries not far from us. Our librarians have advised against the idea, perhaps mostly because of tradition, but if your office were to lead the way to e-only publications we would all surely go along.

I am glad to know that the GPO is looking into the possibility of delivering all its publications electronically. This will happen sooner or later, and I feel that sooner or later print publications by the GPO will stop. The sooner we can do this transition, the better.

Cordially,

José A. Mari Mutt
Director, General Library
University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez

From: Specht, Alice
To: Davis, Richard G.
Cc: Specht, Alice
Sent: Tue Sep 16 13:10:46 2008
Subject: FDLP

Dear Mr. Davis,

I wanted to let you know about some of the ways the FDLP help our library meet the needs of our constituents, both on the campus and in our community. The breadth of the federal documents provides a wide range of immediate support to both students and members of the broader community. School of Education, Business, and Science and Nursing have access to up to date, difficult to find, and expensive to purchase materials in their fields of student. Government information from each branch answers questions for Political Science and legal studies.

Workshops and training for our staff help us to migrate from the concerns of geographic isolation to the concerns of technological illiteracy. Help in identifying and organizing web resources and friendly finding aids are also appreciated.

However, as small depositories such as the one here at Hardin-Simmons face the user migration to digital resources from print resources, we need assistance in moving our collections from print holdings to electronic holdings. The regulations restricting the removal of print resources take too much staff time to work through. We need ways to provide access to electronic sites, and to hold few, if any, print resources. The Texas Tech Regional library clearly doesn't have the staff or the interest to provide support for the area selectives.

Libraries and communities need the FDLP to build support systems for our constituents now and in the future.

Alice W. Specht

Dean of University Libraries
Hardin-Simmons University
Abilene, Texas 79698
325.670.1229

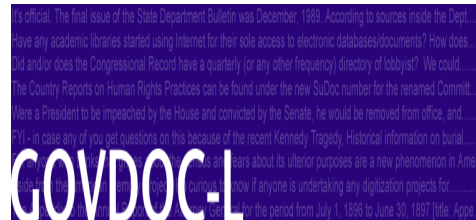


From: Gremmels, Jill [mailto:jigremmels@davidson.edu]
Sent: Thursday, September 18, 2008 9:44 AM
To: Davis, Richard G.
Cc: Enders, Sara
Subject: value of depository

Dear Mr. Davis:

I am writing in response to your August 19 letter to directors of depository libraries. I was a documents librarian for ten years in the 1980s and 1990s, then was out of the FDLP for some years before coming to Davidson a year ago. Many times during my years away, while helping students find information, I wished my library were a depository.

Here at Davidson we value the FDLP for the rich historical collection of documents that it has provided in our 100+ years of depository status. Our students frequently use primary source materials, and they can thank the FLDP, and the foresight and dedication of library workers over the years, for easy access to these outstanding sources. We also value the Census, and our documents staff regularly relies on the community of GOVDOC-L.



As you move forward with the FDLP strategic planning process, I hope you will be very proactive and forward-looking on the issue of what it means to be a depository library in an increasingly electronic information universe. I hope your priority will not be trying to convince depository libraries to retain their status but leading an open, honest exploration of the issue. How can access to government information best be shared and promoted to the American people? That should be the focus.

Leadership on preservation issues would also be welcome, as would any streamlining of rules and procedures that could be made without negatively affecting the integrity of depository collections.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Jill Gremmels

Leland M. Park Director of the Davidson College Library
PO Box 7200
Davidson, NC 28035-7200
jigremmels@davidson.edu
(704) 894-2160
fax: (704) 894-2625

From: Joan Ruth Giesecke [mailto:jgieseck@unlnotes.unl.edu]
Sent: Monday, September 22, 2008 9:29 AM
To: Davis, Richard G.
Subject: Response to August 19 letter on FDLP

Joan Giesecke

(See attached file: GPO - Our response to Ric's letter 9-08.doc)

Joan Giesecke
Dean of Libraries
Interim Director, University of Nebraska Press
318 Love Library
University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Lincoln, NE 68588-4100
(w) 402-472-2526
fax - 402-472-5181
jgiesecke1@unl.edu

September 21, 2008

Mr. Richard G. Davis
Acting Superintendent of Documents
U. S. Government Printing Office
732 North Capitol Street NW
Washington, DC 20401-9009

Dear Mr. Davis:

We have received your Information Dissemination letter of 19 August 2008 and we are pleased to provide a response that is applicable to the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and to our regional depository status.

We are proud to be one of the land-grant institutions that joined the Federal Depository program in 1907. The centenary celebration last year was part of our Libraries' programming and we were honored to receive and to display our plaque marking that achievement. We are an Association of Research Libraries institution as well, and we are adamant that library services *must* be a substantial component of this educational setting. The University's administration has been positive towards our programming and goals.



In addition, this is an agricultural state, so the business, the science, and the future of agrarian endeavors are major considerations for all citizens here. We find that we can solve many enquires through our federal documents collection, and we perceive that this advantage has been sustained over the last century. In particular, we purposely send our incoming agricultural documents to our east campus to support the activities and educational measures there.

With regard to the electronic transition of federal documents, we feel that as a regional we must be constantly aware of the current shortfall of electronic versions of older materials. While it might be more useful to smaller selectives, the current ramp up of “born digital” materials can only serve a very narrow span of our needs. As you are aware, the University of Kansas and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln created a joint regional proposal as one way to leverage effectively our older collections and to improve access to all federal materials for our joint citizenry. We firmly believe that this combination is the best possible path for the future of service to the people of these communities.

We were disappointed – as we believe were many others in the FDLP – when the FDLP failed to deliver last year on the previous Public Printer’s promise to supply an expanded electronic collection of all federal documents. As a result, regional libraries must still rely on the past – indeed, on the paper – and on the library skills that we have developed with these “old” materials, in order to address our patrons’ information needs today.

In conclusion, while we have been supportive of the FDLP, the costs to continue as a regional library are outpacing the benefits we provide to the state. We strongly urge GPO to continue to seek more flexible solutions to the concerns of regional federal depository libraries before the system collapses.

Sincerely

Dr Joan Giesecke
Dean of Libraries

From: Donald Smith [mailto:dosmith@ulm.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, September 23, 2008 11:11 AM
To: Davis, Richard G.
Cc: 'Karen Cook'
Subject: Value of the Federal Depository Program

Mr. Davis,

It is quite easy to say that the depository program is useful because it is extremely so. Personally, I became a regular user during my first professional position when my supervisor assigned me ½ time for a year to documents to provide service at the service desk.

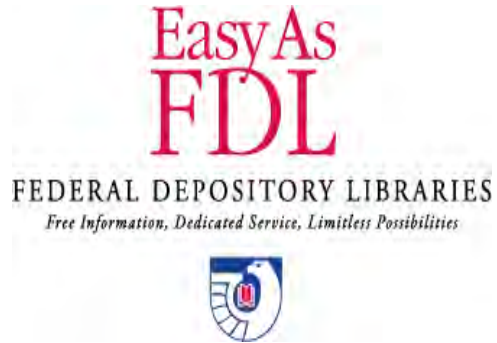
Many already know of its usefulness but more need to know. Once a user has used what is available they often become regular, if not avid, users. One thing that would help is if the GPO had a pr campaign letting the general public know about the program. Libraries with the program regularly identify the collection but it only becomes a regular source once identified in online catalogs and where circulation is permitted for the print items. Both take place in our library.

Donald R. Smith

Dean of the Library
University of Louisiana at Monroe
700 University Ave.
Monroe, LA 71209-0720

office: 318-342-1050
fax: 318-342-1075
cell: 318-348-1715
email: dosmith@ulm.edu

"If we don't begin learning to throw some things away, in order to concentrate on saving what is really needed, the central stacks of all major libraries will soon be condemned as unsanitary landfill—the world's intellectual garbage dump."



From: Betty Johnson [mailto:bjohnson@stetson.edu]
Sent: Thursday, September 25, 2008 3:29 PM
To: Davis, Richard G.
Cc: Barbara Costello
Subject: GPO success story (2)

Mr. Davis - In a recent letter to me and other library directors, you asked for "success stories and anecdotes" about our depository. I've attached one such brief story for you. Thanks.

Betty D. Johnson
Library Director and Professor
duPont-Ball Library
Stetson University
421 N. Woodland Blvd., Unit 8418
DeLand, FL 32723
Voice: 386-822-7178 Fax: 386-740-3626
email: bjohnson@stetson.edu
Library web site: <http://www.stetson.edu/library/>

duPont-Ball Library, Stetson University, DeLand, FL

As an academic library and the oldest depository library in Florida, our depository collection is extremely important for curriculum support. However, the collection also provides needed and helpful information for the people in our surrounding communities.

Our most recent example of outreach to that community was in April, 2008, when the documents librarian, Barbara Costello, was invited to speak at the monthly meeting of a local chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. The group was interested in learning about the depository library program and the library's federal documents collection in general, as well as more specific information on government print and online resources useful for genealogical research. The librarian's presentation, titled "Historical Treasures, Genealogical Gems" highlighted many Serial Set, Census Bureau, and War Department volumes, as well as federal agency websites. Subsequent to the presentation, members of the DAR chapter have visited the library to use the print resources.



From: Ross, Katherine <klr0783@sjvls.org>
To: Davis, Richard G.
Cc: Scobey, Brenda <bls0753@sjvls.org>; Pelz, Margaret <mtp0729@sjvls.org>
Sent: Tue Sep 30 14:51:14 2008
Subject: Government Depository Library benefits/suggestion

TO: Richard Davis
Acting Superintendent of Documents

In answer to your letter of August 19, the unique benefits to our library of the Federal Government Depository system center around tax and legal information. Our patrons have come to depend upon our provision of tax forms and related information. Our patrons also appreciate having current legal information, especially in the areas of family law, employment, and home-related issues. Government Documents can help to meet these information needs.

Our library often needs to refer patrons' questions to the appropriate government agency or website. Our patrons would benefit from easy-to-read handouts supplying government websites and government agency contacts in California, covering often-requested subjects such as Small Business loans, services for the disabled and/or elderly, home loans and mortgages, and other consumer topics.

I have only recently taken over United States documents at our library, so I'm not sure what else I could add. I appreciate the comprehensive resources available at the GPO & FDLP websites. Thank you.

Katherine Ross
Beale Memorial Library
Kern County Library System



From: Fran Caplan
To: Davis, Richard G.
Sent: Wed Oct 01 15:12:00 2008
Subject: 8/19 Memo

I am in receipt of your August 19, 2008 memo to Depository Library Directors. We have been a Depository since 1978 and in that time our participation in the Federal Depository Library Program has been one of the signature services of the Robert Morris University Library. We are proud that we have been able to provide access to many sources of important information that our patrons - both within and outside of the University - would otherwise not have been able to obtain.



We are aware that more and more resources will be available electronically, which in truth better serves our current populations. Clearly, the unique benefit of the program involves the dissemination of data or information collected by the various agencies who in turn make them available to the public at large. Doing this via Depository Libraries ensures that organization, storage and access will be efficient and manageable.

Regards,

Fran Caplan, Ed.D.
Dean, University Libraries
Robert Morris University
6001 University Blvd.
Moon Township, PA 15108-1189
412.397.4366
412.397.4288 (fax)



TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

Libraries — Office of the Dean

5000 TAMU

College Station, Texas 77843-5000

(979) 845-8111

FAX (979) 845-6238

October 1, 2008

Mr. Ric Davis
Director, Library Services & Content Management
732 North Capitol Street, NW, Mail Stop: IDPD
Washington, DC 20401

Dear Mr. Davis:

As an academic research library, the Sterling C. Evans Library of Texas A&M University values the support provided by the Federal Depository Library Program for our dual mission of student education and faculty research. By enhancing our collections, especially in the sciences, engineering, and agriculture, the FDLP provides resources for our students and faculty. We also appreciate the opportunity to participate in the "Government Information Online: Ask a Librarian" service, which allows us to fulfill our mission for service, not only to faculty, staff and students, but to the general public as well.

Where we would like to see improvement in the Federal Depository Library Program include: expanded efforts to digitize historical collections; additional online training for library staff; and more access to privatized government information.

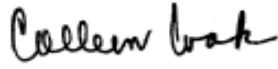
Many research libraries are experiencing space issues. Digitizing historical collections could help us ease the space problem by allowing us to deaccession the print copy. However, we also need appropriate cataloging records/metadata to provide access to the digital items and assurances of perpetual access.

As more and more government information is available online, training of all reference staff, not just documents staff, is important to make sure all our patrons get the best information. The FDLP's OPAL initiative is a good start, but web based training on GPO Access databases and web sites of various federal agencies, similar to the content of the Interagency Seminar, would be very beneficial to a broader audience.

Finally, the privatization of government information is a major concern. Projects that allow access to subscription material like the NTIS/DARTS and STAT USA are a great perk for depository libraries, but requiring patrons to ask for passwords does not allow for efficient use of these resources. If some type of IP recognition access could be set up, it would make these databases more accessible and therefore more appealing to users.

Government documents provide valuable information to students, staff, and faculty of Texas A&M University. Government information is important to all disciplines, from the hard sciences to the humanities. Both our primary clientele and the neighboring community benefit from free access to government publications.

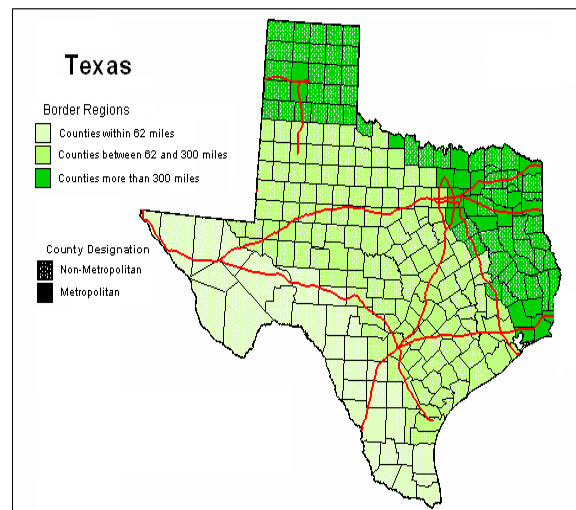
Colleen Cook



Dean of University Libraries
Texas A&M University



The screenshot shows the OPAL website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Home, Schedule of Events, OPAL Archive, Streaming Events, About OPAL, Search, Search, Contact Us, and Feedback. Below the navigation bar is a banner image showing a group of people in a meeting. The main content area is titled "Welcome to OPAL: Online Programming for All Libraries—And All Library Users". It includes a "NEW: Streaming Audio Preview of OPAL online events coming in October and November (linkback link, 1st included)" and "NEW: Streaming Audio Introduction to OPAL (Streaming Media video file; playback time 3 minutes, 29 seconds)". The text describes OPAL as an international collaborative effort by libraries of all types to provide web-based programs and training for library users and library staff members. It also mentions that OPAL is administered by the Science Library System, the McAllen Talking Book Center, and the Texas State Library Talking Book and Braille Service.



From: Michelle Pearse [mailto:mpearse@law.harvard.edu]
Sent: Thursday, October 02, 2008 2:43 PM
To: Davis, Richard G.
Subject: response to August letter

Below is my response to your August letter at <http://www.fdlp.gov/home/about/strategicplanforfdlp.html> I realize that you wanted it by the end of the month, but I thought it might still be helpful to respond now. Feel free to e-mail or call with any questions.

Thanks.

I realize that you are looking for specific local anecdotes to feature on FDLP Desktop, but many of my comments speak to the value of the depository program more generally and the directions in which I hope it goes in the future. I think there will be a need for some sort of depository program even if we get to the point where everything is only in digital form, but I think the program is particularly crucial during this time of transition when we live in a "hybrid" and dual format world.

As a law library, we find great value in being able to provide official, authenticated primary law materials. While many materials can be ordered from the bookstore or through a jobber, our participation in the depository program facilitates the receipt of certain types of materials such as limited run monographs or administrative decisions.



While our library does not download records directly from Catalog of U.S. Government Publications, we have benefited from the GPO's records as loaded by LC or by other libraries in OCLC (and formerly RLIN). We also use it as a general bibliographic utility for reference purposes. I think the cataloging of print and online materials by GPO will become even more important in the years to come, as libraries continue to have problems determining the nature or status of materials (e.g. does something still even exist in print). The authoritative cataloging of online materials and assignment of PURLs will continue to be important as more libraries provide access to these materials through their catalogs or otherwise.

Membership in the depository program also provides a sense of community with other libraries/librarians handling government information. It provides a source of expertise and a venue in which to address common concerns. Librarians are thereby able to enhance their own skills which they can use to help their patrons navigate the increasing (and increasingly complicated) amount of government information.

In terms of the future, I think that libraries will be looking to the GPO for leadership in authentication and issues related to the preservation and stability of born digital government information. GPO already serves an important role in partnering with (and monitoring) libraries and institutions in preserving, digitizing and making accessible government information. As more government information is born digital, GPO will serve an increasingly important role in guarding (or helping libraries guard) that information and making sure that it is available in some useful way to today's users and preserved for users in the future. At some point, perhaps more

depository libraries could take on areas of expertise or responsibility, with GPO providing support in the form of the content (e.g. digital files) and other support resources such as cataloging or connect with government expertise on the information. In addition to providing the content/materials and supporting resources, the FDLP can provide a process by which libraries can cooperatively work out how they will handle managing and maintaining this information. The future will require more cooperation-both between GPO and libraries and among libraries themselves. The FDLP provides a stage for this cooperation. As we deal with what often seems to be the chaos of the current information environment, FDLP can provide some continuity and stability for tracking and providing a vast number of static or consistent government resources, while libraries help assess how some born digital "fugitive document"-type information might be at risk. At some point, it could be that the FDLP helps libraries take custody and provide access to only electronic files, but even at that point, there would need to be some program in place for libraries to get authoritative information and authentication, as well as support to help make this information accessible in the present and for years to come. I

also think that in many settings, the depository program can help libraries serve the important function of helping the public generally



connect with information, particularly for those who might not have online access at home. Designation as a depository might also help some libraries with expenditures to support assisting the public generally. While the GPO could continue to provide information and services that would be helpful to libraries and the public using government information, I think the FDLP program is still necessary as facilitator, organizer and "bridge" in making sure that this information and support resources are actually being used and disseminated to the benefit of the public at large both today and in the years to come.

Michelle Pearse
Bibliographer for Anglo-American Law
Harvard Law School Library
Langdell 111
1545 Massachusetts Ave.
Cambridge, MA 02138
ph: (617)496-2102
fax: (617)496-4409
e-mail: mpearse@law.harvard.edu



south carolina
STATE LIBRARY

October 6, 2008

Richard Davis
Acting Superintendent of Documents
U. S. Government Printing Office

Dear Richard,

This letter is in response to your request for comments on being a Federal documents depository library. David Goble, Director of the South Carolina State Library and I have discussed your letter of August 19 and I am happy to give you some thoughts about this.

The South Carolina State Library has a history of library service to the state legislature, to state employees and to the citizens of South Carolina. The State Library Board (comprised of 5 citizens) was established in 1929 to foster (without funds) the development of libraries in the state. In 1969 the Board became the South Carolina State Library and had extended public library service to all 46 counties, had begun interlibrary loan procedures, and had broadened its services to include the blind, the physically handicapped, state institutions, the legislature and state agencies. Also, it now would be the principle agent in a state documents depository program with responsibilities to acquire, catalog, make accessible and preserve state publications. A documents depository program, with 11 libraries as depositories of state publications and a unique classification scheme, was developed. Now, forty years later, the program is still strong and our collection of state publications has grown to more than 90, 000 items in many formats, including a growing collection of over 1100 items in electronic format only.

Another of the new duties established in 1969 was to become a depository for federal government publications. As our agencies are for the most part dependent and responsive to corresponding federal agencies and the staffs of the agencies need ready access to the federal information, becoming a federal depository was a logical and necessary step. Federal publications in print format circulated regularly to the state



employees, as they prepared their own reports for federal and state bodies. We relied on the Government Printing Office to provide those publications on a regular manner, free of charge, so that our own government offices could function effectively.

Like GPO, the South Carolina Library takes very seriously its role of acquiring, cataloging, making accessible and preserving the documents of the state agencies, the Governor and the State Legislature. In fact, many of our procedures, goals, and accomplishments mirror the FDLP:

- FDLP has as its foundation the principle that the public has the right of access to its government's information to create an informed citizenry who will participate in the democratic processes. ***Our mission indicates we encourage an investment in libraries to create a better informed and more highly skilled South Carolina citizenry.***
- FDLP is committed to an obligation of Government to disseminate government information, to preserve the information and to guarantee its authenticity and integrity. ***The State Library serves as the official depository of state documents (SC Code 60-2-20).***
- Federal depository libraries are uniquely positioned to provide no-fee public access to both current and historical government information products. ***Federal documents and information resources are necessary to state government employee research. SC Code of Laws indicates that depository status is a duty of the State Library (60-1-60f).***
- Federal depository library staff, both professional and paraprofessional, become knowledgeable of government information and provide unique, invaluable service to citizens in their search for information. ***Reference librarians regularly conduct classes in using federal webpages and print publications. Workshops for public librarians and for state documents depository librarians have featured federal information.***
- GPO has developed a strong working relationship among government agencies, the network of depository libraries, and library users. ***The State Library is the focal point for library service for state employees, libraries, and citizens.***
- FDLP works well as a network of libraries coordinated by the Depository Library Council with regional depositories and selective libraries supporting each other to provide value-added services for library patrons and federal agencies. ***The***

State Library makes use of the Regionals and their collections and cooperates with other depositories in ensuring access to government publications.

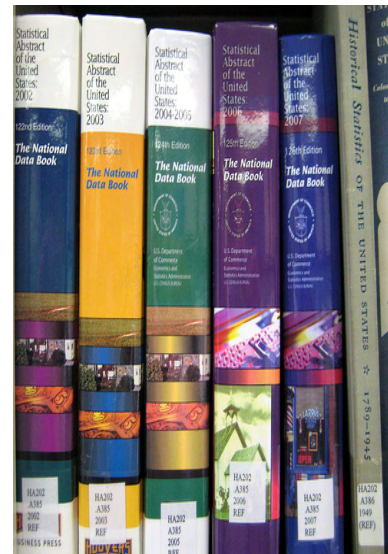
- GPO has continued to support depository libraries and their staff with guidelines for collection development and maintenance, with continuing education, and with a vast array of services online. ***The staff at the State Library have benefitted from the continued support of GPO.***
- GPO has added to the value of depository libraries by acquiring access to premium databases and permanent access to electronic publications. ***Databases with research reports in science, energy and health are particularly helpful to several state agencies.***

Since the development of electronic access to so many of the more current editions of federal publications, use statistics of the collection are hard to determine. It is true that fewer patrons request print federal publications now, but knowledge of the material we have on hand or have easy access to on the web means the professional staff can direct users to information that is often more directly related to the topic than the resources they have found themselves. The library staff themselves have become more informed citizens and can readily assist patrons in locating and using federal government information. Some of our recent experiences with the federal documents collection include:

- Recently we had a state employee need pages from a Federal Register of 1970. The material was scanned and sent to him. Later he called to say that he had needed them to share with an EPA person who said he couldn't get the pages himself.
- A patron wanted the South Carolina pages of the 1890 census because the copy of that census in her public library ("large public library in Northeast"), didn't have complete pages on South Carolina. She had driven here because she thought we would have a more complete version. Of course, the South Carolina information was lost in the fire following the 1890 census, so no "version" of the census report would have comprehensive information on South Carolina. The person was stunned and wanted to know why they hadn't saved the information electronically. She did enjoy seeing the facsimiles of earlier censuses.



- We have many people coming to the library seeking genealogical resources. Many assume all of the old census reports have names and ages of individuals to help them verify ancestors. Of course, they are disappointed to find the census reports do not all contain this information, but what they do find, in terms of information about the state and counties, sizes of farms, schools, housing conditions, etc is often enough to open whole new avenues to browse and questions to answer. Browsing the Vital Statistics volumes to see the drop in deaths from diseases treatable by penicillin or the enormous toll from influenza will bring home just how much we have done to improve our lives.
- The Statistical Abstract is a vital resource for our reference services. Since many of our patrons (state employees and university personnel) want complete verification of any statistic, we can provide the complete document referenced by tables in the Abstract by finding the document in our collection.



I think one of the most important issues you touched on in your letter of August 19 is the fact that many agencies are publishing direct to the web. Without benefit of formal indexing which means that although reference transactions might be down and remote use of resources might be up, we don't know if users are receiving benefit of all the information essential to their research. It seems to me they get what they can find, but not necessarily the information they need. The depository system has for many years assured users of getting all related information.

The South Carolina State Library needs to be a federal documents depository library for its patrons today and tomorrow. The collection of federal publications that we have built and the services we derive from the community of depositories and from GPO are invaluable to our mission of service to the public libraries and to state government. We need that assurance that GPO will continue to acquire major publications in print and will provide permanent access to electronic formats as a means of documenting our history.

We applaud you in your efforts.

Sincerely,
 Elaine Sandberg
 Government Documents Librarian
 South Carolina State Library

From: Vitlar, Linda [mailto:lvitlar@plcmc.org]
Sent: Tuesday, October 07, 2008 8:33 AM
To: Davis, Richard G.
Subject: Federal Depository Library

Dear Mr. Davis,

This is sent on behalf of Charles M. Brown, Director of Libraries. Please find the attached document that explains some of the unique benefits the Federal depository provides the library.

If you need any further information, please do not hesitate to contact us. Thank you.

Linda M. Vitlar, Office Manager
The Public Library of Charlotte & Mecklenburg County
310 North Tryon Street, Charlotte, NC 28202
704 416.0605 o
704 416.0677 f

PLCMC...Expanding minds. Empowering individuals. Enriching our community.

The Public Library of Charlotte & Mecklenburg County consists of 24 locations serving people in neighborhoods and towns across the county. From a grand total of 2,526 books when the Carnegie library opened in 1903, today's library system contains over 1.5 million adult and children's classics, favorite paperbacks, modern best sellers, CDs and DVDs, with over 500 employees county-wide helping to make information available to virtually anyone who wants it.

PLCMC has been a member of the Federal Depository Library System since 1964. The Main Library houses the Federal Government Documents Collection, but since many of the publications circulate, the entire system functions as a conduit of government information to the county's citizens. The Federal Documents Librarian takes advantage of the training and networking opportunities made available through the FDLS and in turn keeps the other librarians informed.



Patron Questions Answered using Government Resources, a few examples:

Secretary from a Law Office: Looking for a US Trademark Board Decision about a particular trademark. This involved checking our Trademark Gazette indexes to figure out when the trademark was issued, following the prosecution history to figure out when the Board Decision was transacted, contacting UNCC and then NC State to see if they had the Board Decisions from 1996 and getting it faxed directly to the law office.

Gold Mining: We have a patron that comes into the Carolina Room to do research on gold mining in our area. Our copy of Principal Gold-Producing Districts of the United

States, 1968, from the US Dept of the Interior had disappeared. It is no longer in print, but it was replaced by claiming it when a depository library in Texas offered it on the nation-wide listserv. For free.



Small Business: Our librarians are able to find demographic data for patrons working on their business plans. By using the Census Bureau's *American FactFinder* website we are able to extract charts and create maps showing the demographics they select as their target market. This helps them determine where to locate their business.

Children and Literacy: Because we have received several publications from the National Institute for Literacy about teaching children to read, the Federal Documents Librarian has gotten extra copies directly from the agency. These went to our children and youth library, *ImaginOn: The Joe & Joan Martin Center*. We have also gotten copies of publications about teaching adults to read, which are circulated from the Main Library government documents collection. Our literacy staff is alerted to these publications for use in their work.

Virtual Reference: NCKnows is an Internet chat reference service staffed by PLCMC and librarians around North Carolina. In one session, an intern at the Charlotte Chamber needed the County and City Data Books from 1900-1940 in order to find employment data for agriculture, service, and manufacturing sectors in Mecklenburg County. We did not have the County and City Data Books she wanted, but were able to find the employment figures in other Census materials we own.



Charlotte Area Researchers and Planners: This group meets quarterly to hear presentations and discuss resources for many types of public and private research. Many are interested in demographics and statistical data. The Federal Documents Librarian attends and whenever appropriate promotes the many options available at the Public Library. Most of these are in our government documents collection. The membership includes representatives from the Charlotte Chamber, United Way, Central Piedmont Community College, Charlotte Center City Partners, University of North Carolina at Charlotte, Bank of America, US Census Bureau, Charlotte/Mecklenburg Schools, Realty Companies, plus many city and county departments.

GIS Day Event: Our collection of USGS topographical maps will be used in one of the displays during Geography Awareness Month in November. Several county and city agencies as well as private vendors will have exhibits and training sessions on GIS Day Nov 19, 2008 at the Main Library. The audience will include students, business people and GIS professionals.

10/4/2008

From: Cogswell, James A.
To: Davis, Richard G.
Cc: Concannon, Marie
Sent: Fri Oct 10 14:53:53 2008
Subject: FW: Response to Superintendent of Docs request
Director Davis:

This is in response to your letter of August 19, requesting two kinds of information:

1. Success stories and anecdotes about the value of the Federal depository in our library
2. Suggestions for how GPO/FDLP might assist in improving the value of the depository to our library and community

To this end, our Government Documents Librarian, Marie Concannon, enlisted the assistance of Kristine Stillwell who holds a Ph.D. in History from the University of Missouri. Ms. Stillwell has conducted research using our government documents collection while a graduate student, and now that she has come back to Mizzou for a second masters (in Library Science), she is working as a student assistant in the department. We are fortunate to have someone of her caliber working in the department, and she has graciously agreed to write up her thoughts. The attached document should give a valuable perspective on your letter.

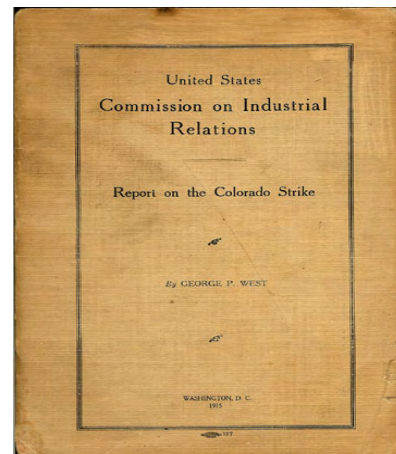
Let me know if you require anything else.

Jim Cogswell
Director of Libraries
University of Missouri

University of Missouri – Columbia Libraries

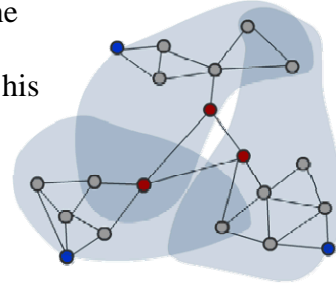
September, 2008

In this age of digital information, there is still a strong demand for print resources at the University of Missouri Libraries. Graduate and undergraduate students in several disciplines, but especially history, have made good use of these materials in their papers, theses, and dissertations. As they study the nuances of contour maps or peruse the testimonies of a Congressional hearing, the print sources provide an intimacy with the documents that digital sources cannot match. Last year, one of our users read *all* of the print volumes of the *Final Report of the Commission on Industrial Relations* (1915.) She says that the



testimonies contained within those volumes provided “vivid details and compelling evidence for several chapters” of her doctoral dissertation. She attests that she “would never have had the patience or the will to read through a digitized version of the USCIR.”

Because of the ephemeral nature of web-based information, journalism students are often directed by faculty to “fact check” with printed material. Journalism students are not the only ones who come to the Documents office with this kind of request. We recently assisted a hurricane-evacuated law student from Tulane University who came to us to verify citations for a law review article. We showed him our databases first, but he told us that his professor requires all sources cited in a law article to be confirmed with a *print* copy. When we showed him print sources which we received through the Federal Depository Library Program, he was completely satisfied. This example speaks not only to the importance of print materials but also to the democratic nature of the Federal Library Depository Program. That student does not attend the University of Missouri, yet he had full access to our OPACs, stacks, and physical resources.



As faculty across the country grapple with the way that search engines and digital bibliographic databases are changing the ways that students think, research, and write, there is a movement afoot to have students return to the physical library and get “real books in their hands.”ⁱ The FDLP provides materials in a *variety* of formats that aid in the discovery, engagement, and application of information. It reaches to the digital future without sacrificing the value of the printed page. FDLP materials in all formats enhance the learning experience of students and also support the mission of our University.

Richard G. Davis, in his August 19 letter to Depository library directors, said “*Let me know how we can assist in improving the value of the depository to your community and library.*” One possibility involves a strategy of direct engagement with educators in order to encourage greater use of FDLP sources. For example, perhaps his office could sponsor a regular column about government sources along with possible applications for classroom and/or research use. This information could be disseminated on appropriate discussion boards, listservs, or academic websites (for example the Humanities and Social Sciences Online, <http://h-net.org/>; the History News Network, <http://hnn.us/>; or the American Political Science Association’s resources web page, http://www.apsanet.org/section_188.cfm).



We also suggest that the FDLP consider producing professional quality A/V marketing materials to inform citizens that they have the *right* to use FDLP materials.

ⁱ Thomas H. Benton, pseud., “On Stupidity, Part 2: Exactly How Should We Teach the ‘Digital Natives’?” <<http://chronicle.com/jobs/news/2008/09/2008090501c.htm>> (5 Sept. 2008)

Although each depository shares marketing responsibilities, TV and radio PSAs on CD/DVD format have the potential to reach far more non-affiliates than our traditional outreach venues. Few depository libraries have the financial backing to produce such an item independently. We do appreciate the bookmarks and brochures that GPO provides, but we hope that a positive informational message about FDLP access can be communicated in a greater variety of mediums.

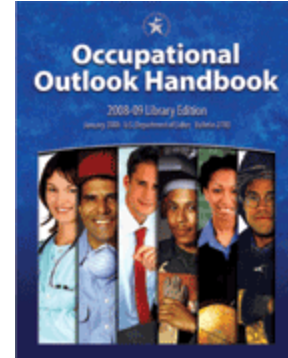
From: Heather.Wolf@mesaaz.gov [mailto:Heather.Wolf@mesaaz.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, October 14, 2008 12:53 PM
To: Davis, Richard G.
Cc: Sandy.Rizzo@mesaaz.gov; Denise.Shroyer@mesaaz.gov
Subject: City of Mesa Library's Federal Depository Library

Mr. Davis,

You wrote the FDLP Library Directors and asked us to contact you with information about the value of our FDL to our library customers and the community. Here in Mesa, we are lucky to have two extremely dedicated staff members who do all that they can to learn about, promote, and educate our library staff and community about depository resources, online and in print. While we are in the process of reducing the amount we receive as a depository, we hope to continue to be a depository well into the future.

The reasons we value our depository status:

- Receive many valuable reference resources at no cost such as Occupational Outlook Handbook, topographic maps, etc.
- Receive electronic records for online government sources of value to customers looking for most recent information as well as access to databases such as STAT-USA.
- Receive specific categories of information such as tax, legal, and census that are in high demand.
- Learn about various services, programs, and documents that are available to help our customers.
- Order free materials for distribution to our library users.
- No copyright restrictions.
- Support from GPO and FDLP for cataloging, guides, training, listservs, etc.



I'm sure you've heard many of the same reasons from other Library Directors, so I'd like to add three anecdotes. These real life examples show how being a depository allowed our library to better serve our community.

- A depository received publication, "U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Presents: The Art and Science of Grant Writing" by HUD, Center for Faith Based & Community Initiatives, was critical in assisting faith-based grant seekers.
- While assisting a mortgage company employee researching a government incentive for homeowners based on census tracts, library staff found the Internet way of matching locations with tracts to be very clunky. Instead, they used a CD received through the depository that was much more user-friendly and we were able to check the CD out to the customer.
- Because of our depository status, our Friends of the Library receive an additional \$3,000 instead of \$2,000 from the Books for Arizona Libraries Grants through the Library Development Division of the Arizona State Library, Archives, and Public

Records. The extra \$1,000 is greatly appreciated for the additional flexibility the Friends have to fund library programs and items needed for improved public service.



I hope this information will prove of value as FDLP begins its strategic planning process.

Sincerely,

Heather Wolf
Library Director
City of Mesa Library
64 E. First St.
Mesa, AZ 85201
480.644.2712

----- Original Message -----

From: Mary Fetzter <fetzer@rci.rutgers.edu>

To: Davis, Richard G.; Valeda F. Dent <vdent@rutgers.edu>

Sent: Tue Oct 21 13:07:28 2008

Subject: Value of FDLP

Dear Rick,

Just some belated comments on the value of the FDLP to us here at Rutgers University in New Brunswick (FDLP 0364), per your earlier request to the Depository Library Director:

At the moment:

* We have 3 classes (about 70 students) tracking legislation as well as evaluating the implementation phase on whatever piece of legislation each has chosen. Our hearings, Congressional reports, Congressional Record, Statutes, GAO Reports, Budget Office documents, Federal Register, CFR are all being used intensively, as are GPO Access and THOMAS (two classes in public policy formation and one in government information resources).

* We have at least one class from the Department of Latino and Hispanic Caribbean Studies currently tracking census data, particularly data on Hispanics, over the more recent decades.

* Another class of about 45 students in Sport and the Law are using our legal and regulatory tools to track judicial decisions and regulations pertinent to specific case scenarios.

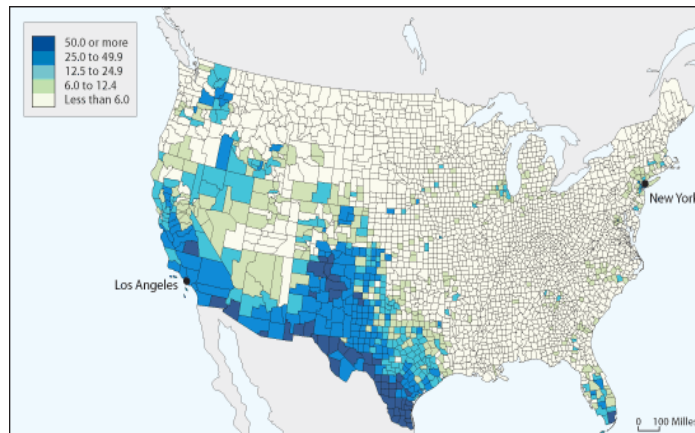
* A question emailed me last week requested data on the Asian American population in New York City.

* Yesterday, I had a distinguished looking gentleman [read faculty member] walk in with a younger man [read, I think, job candidate] he was showing around our library and his only question to our reference assistant was, "Are you a federal depository?" The designation obviously had value to him.

* Yesterday I had a woman from our Environmental Sciences department using data from our Export History and Import History CD-Roms, as well as requesting our Current Industrial Reports on Glass Containers series. I believe she's the same woman who has been using USA Trade Online which we access through our depository program.

* This week I have a new librarian from another institution in the state coming to consult with me because her "dean would like to see the US documents collection expanded" at her institution.

* A chat reference question I received last week involved "which countries allow dual citizenship and allow their citizens the right to vote even if they are not residing in their home countries."



Obviously, as the State University of New Jersey, we are constantly being called upon to supply information and data from both our current and historical collections, and I use the above instances as evidence of this. Both current and historical materials have considerable value to us in delivering information to students, faculty, staff, and citizens, and we take pride in teaching users about government resources. I hope the above helps "make the case" for the FDLP's value to us.

Mary

++++
Mary Fetzer E-mail: fetzer@rci.rutgers.edu
Government Resources Librarian Phone: 732-932-7129 x121
Alexander Library - Rutgers University Fax: 732-932-1101
New Brunswick, NJ 08901-1169